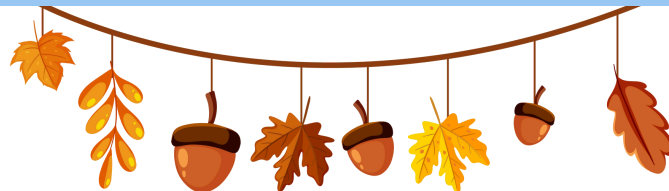




OC Literacy and Language

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



October brings crisp air, colorful leaves, and plenty of reasons to celebrate learning!

We continue **Hispanic Heritage Month through Oct 15**, honoring the diverse voices that shape our classrooms. **Indigenous Peoples' Day (Oct 13)** invites us to reflect on history and resilience, while **National Bullying Prevention Month** reminds us of the power of kindness in schools.

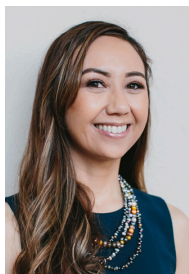
While our *Write to Joy* conference has been postponed (we'll bring it back in the future—stay tuned!), there are still plenty of opportunities to connect and grow this month. Our next **Literacy & Language Network Meeting** is scheduled for October 14, and the **Joyful Literacy Classroom** series launches on October 8, with **Designing Inclusive Literacy Classrooms** following on October 29. Each gathering is designed to help you create welcoming, engaging spaces where all students thrive.

Let's carry the season's spirit of change into our teaching, sparking joy and curiosity in every classroom.



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Literacy & Language
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California Department of Education | Educational Services

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Enrollment Unit

Bringing Screening to Support

Tier 1 & 2 Responses to Reading K-2



- 1. Individualizing for groups
- 2. 10 min. - 15 min.
- 3. 100CE as follows: Direct (Building C, Letter Review & Read)
- 4. 10 min. per person (group provided)
- 5. Implementation as an explicit skill to use on QR Code

After administering the California Risk of Reading Difficulty Screener, learn how to use your data to implement Tier 1 and Tier 2 strategies for targeted whole and small group instruction to support at-risk students' foundational reading needs.

Participants will:

- Identify how to interpret screening results
- Learn Tier 1 differentiation strategies
- Explore Tier 2 interventions for students
- Walk away with practical tools and planning templates

Audience: Teachers, Intervention Teachers, TOSAs, Site Administrators, District Leaders

ICAP: Foundation of Learning Implementation of State Standards

MTSS: Include Academic Instruction

For **current questions**, contact **Andrea Poirier** directly at **apoirier@ednet.org** or
 For **registration questions**, contact **Cathy Carr** at **ccarr@ednet.org**





After administering the California Risk of Reading Difficulty Screener, learn how to use your data to implement Tier 1 and Tier 2 strategies for targeted whole and small group instruction to support at-risk students' foundational reading needs. Participants will: understand how to interpret screening results, learn Tier 1 differentiation strategies, explore Tier 2 interventions for students, and walk away with practical tools and planning templates. \$25 per person.

[illegible]

Too often, adolescent reading “intervention” becomes a label, rather than a launchpad. In this joyful, evidence-based, and research-aligned series, educators will explore how to reframe literacy support using the Science of Reading, UDL, and MTSS frameworks — without losing student voice, choice, or confidence.



Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction, and Academic Enrichment Unit

Unlock the Science of Reading: A 3-Part Professional Learning Series



In person
11/15/2024 & 11/27/2024 (OCDE)

Virtual
2/24/25

1 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

2 FREE

3 Registration link -
https://ocde.org/ocde/2024/11/15/unlock-the-science-of-reading-3-part-series/ or scan the QR code



Target audience: K-2 Teachers,
Instructional Assistants, K-2 ELAs,
School Site Administrators,
Instructional Coaches

SEAP: Concepts of Learning Implementation of Standards

Cost: Includes Academic Enrichment Unit

Join us for an engaging 3-part series designed to build foundational knowledge of the Science of Reading and explore the research that informs effective practices with explicit and systematic instruction. Participants will explore the science of reading and the comprehensive component will learn on OCDE literacy bridge and receive eligible for 1 unit of continuing education credit. Whether you're new to the Science of Reading or looking to take your practice deeper, this series will equip you with tools to translate research into impactful instruction.

Would you like a customized literacy training of your school exclusively for your staff? Contact us!

For more content, contact: Kristine Hurling/monitors of all learning opportunities

For registration questions: contact OCDE Area of Curriculum, Instruction, and Academic Enrichment

www.ocde.org



Join us for an engaging 3-part series designed to build foundational knowledge of the Science of Reading and its classroom application. Each session is 2.5 hours, with optional asynchronous work available to deepen your learning. Participants who complete all sessions and the asynchronous component will earn an OCDE Literacy Badge and be eligible for 1 unit of continuing education credit. Whether you're new to the Science of Reading or ready to take your practice deeper, this series will empower you with tools to translate research into impactful instruction.

Upcoming Literacy Offerings

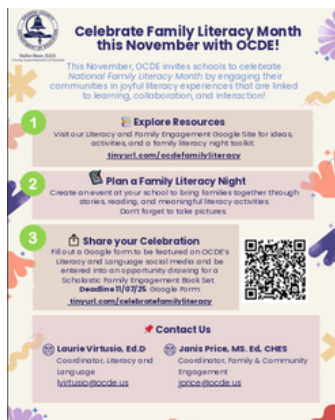


Reading Screener for Site Leaders

November 6, 2025, December 9, 2025, January 13, 2026 | 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Register [here](https://ocde.k12ca.gov/288-272349)

California has launched a new K-2 Risk of Reading Difficulties Screener, and site administrators play a critical role in its successful implementation. This three-part virtual learning series will provide administrators with the knowledge, tools, and strategies to lead screening efforts with confidence. Each session will focus on a key phase of the process, from understanding the legislation to using data for instructional response. Topics include family communication, screening multilingual learners and students with IEPs or 504 plans, and integrating results within the MTSS framework.



Celebrate Family Literacy Month!

Google Form Due Friday, November 7, 2025

Join the Orange County Department of Education in celebrating National Family Literacy Month. Our new flyer highlights resources, activities, and a toolkit to help schools and families create joyful literacy experiences that promote learning and connection. Explore ideas for hosting a Family Literacy Night, engage families through meaningful reading activities, and share your celebrations with us for a chance to be featured on our social media page and enter up to three teacher nominations into a Scholastic classroom book set drawing. Download flyer [here](#).

Please click on the link below to see our professional development trainings

2025-26 Literacy and Language Calendar

View all flyers and resources [here](#)

Save the Date



Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services Division
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

Multilingual Academic Services

Speaking the Future: AI-Powered Strategies for EL Success

This professional development session empowers teachers and district educators to harness Artificial Intelligence as a dynamic tool for accelerating language acquisition in English Learners. Participants will explore AI-driven platforms and strategies that support vocabulary development, speaking and listening practice, and culturally responsive engagement. Through hands-on activities and collaborative planning, educators will gain practical insights into integrating AI to personalize instruction and boost EL achievement.

COST:
\$250 per person
\$500 per team (2-6 members)

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location:
Orange County Department of Education
200 Kalmus Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
In-Person

Aligns with CA EL Roadmap Principle 3: System Conditions that Support Effectiveness and Principle 4: Alignment and Articulation Within and Across Systems

Date: October 10, 2025 **Date: February 6, 2026**

Register  **Register** 

Intended Audience: Teachers and district administrators
Registration Information: Stephanie Ohanesian, sohanesian@ocde.us
Content Information: Wes Kriesel, wkriesel@ocde.us
Dr. Sandra Preciado, spreclado@ocde.us

LCAP Buckets & Priorities: Conditions of Learning - Implementation of State Standards - Pupil Outcomes: Pupil Achievement - Engagement - School Climate
CA MTSS Domain: Whole Child - Inclusive Academic Instruction Features

4259071425

CA Project ARISE Literacy Workshop Series 25-26

SUPPORTING ADOLESCENT LITERACY & EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

Are you looking to better understand the unique developmental considerations for budding readers in their teen years?

Project ARISE in partnership with the The Center for Whole-Child Education, is offering this **virtual series of FREE workshops** designed to help educators, leaders, and community school teams deepen their understanding of adolescent literacy development.

Center for Whole-Child Education
ASU Teachers College

REGISTER FOR THESE WORKSHOPS  **HERE**

ADOLESCENT LITERACY 101

Explore the unique developmental considerations for adolescent readers through the lens of neurodevelopment, psychology, and science of reading. Learn effective strategies to holistically support teen literacy growth in your context.

Mondays, 3:30 - 4:45
Attend the Date Designed for You:

- Sept. 29 for educators & leaders
- Oct. 6 for community school

ADOLESCENT LITERACY: THE ROLE OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

Explore the science behind how adolescents learn and grow, with a focus on literacy development and critical role of executive functions. Gain practical strategies to create supportive environments where young people can thrive.

Mondays, 3:30 - 4:45
Attend the Date Designed for You:

- Nov. 3 for educators
- Nov. 10 for leaders
- Dec. 1 for community schools

JOIN OUR ADOLESCENT LITERACY NETWORK

We're inviting teams to join a statewide community of practice where teams learn together, collaborate across schools, and tackle literacy and executive function challenges rooted in their own context.

THURSDAYS, 3:30-4:45 PM

Oct. 23 - Kick-off Nov. 20 Dec. 11 Jan. 22 Feb. 26

Interested Teams Click **HERE**

QUESTIONS
Email rliecccoe.k12.ca.us








Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit presents

TEACHERS & AI WEBINAR SERIES

Empowering Educators with Artificial Intelligence to Transform Pedagogy

Join us for a monthly webinar series designed to help TK-12 teachers, instructional coaches, and educators interested in AI integration learn how to incorporate AI tools to enhance instructional planning, personalize learning, and spark creativity in the classroom. Each session will explore practical strategies, tools, and ethical considerations for leveraging AI to improve pedagogy.

REGISTER HERE

October 28, 2025
November 18, 2025
December 16, 2025
January 27, 2026
February 17, 2026
March 24, 2026
April 28, 2026

Time: 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual - Zoom
Cost: Free

Contact Wes Kriesel for Content Questions:
E: wkriesel@ocde.us | Ph: 714-966-4151
Contact Gabby Alvarez for Registration Questions:
E: g.alvarez@ocde.us | Ph: 714-966-4228

LCAP Priority: Pupil Outcomes: Pupil Achievement
CA MTSS Domain & Feature: Whole Child - Inclusive Academic Instruction

42590710325

2025-26 RDRS Webinar Series for all CA Educators

SCREENING FOR LITERACY SUCCESS: FROM INSIGHT TO ACTION

Ready to strengthen your screening practices and meet RDRS legislated requirements? Join Project ARISE and partner, National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII), for this free three-part webinar series.

Session 1: Understanding Screeners
Monday, Sept. 22 - 3:30-4:45 pm
Launch our 5-part series with a powerful overview of screening within an MTSS.

- Understand the purpose of reading screeners
- Identify key features that make screeners effective
- Adopt the right mindsets to turn data into action
- Explore how engaging families enhances support

Session 2: Collecting Quality Data
Monday, Oct. 20 - 3:30-4:45 pm
Take the next in our 5-part series with a focused look at the logistics behind effective screening.

- Plan screening thoughtfully to ensure clarity and consistency
- Use fidelity checks to maintain data quality and ensure reliable implementation
- Train data collectors for accuracy and consistency

Session 3: Using Data for Support
Monday, Nov. 17 - 3:30-4:45 pm
Wrap up our 5-part series by unlocking the power of screening data for decision-making across all tiers of support.

- Evaluate the effectiveness Tier 1 instruction
- Identify students needing Tier 2 or 3 support
- Use data to strengthen core practices
- Share results with families to build trust and collaboration

Sessions facilitated by our content partner:
Jon Potter, Ph.D.

Dr. Jon Potter is a Senior Technical Assistance Consultant at AIR, supporting both the National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII) and the National MTSS Center. He advises state agencies and school districts on MTSS, data-based decision making, and early literacy instruction and assessment. He also co-authored *Unraveling Data-Based Decision Making: A Problem-Solving Model to Enhance MTSS*, a practical guide that helps educators use student data to drive instruction and plan effective interventions across all tiers of support.

National Center on Intensive Intervention

ATTEND ONE OR ALL

Register **HERE** or bit.ly/oriserdrswrwebinars to register. Registered participants will receive recordings & follow up communication.

Questions? Email: rliecccoe.k12.ca.us






Save the Date



BEST READING CHALLENGE IN THE UNIVERSE!

★ THE 4TH ANNUAL S.T.E.A.M. RACE TO SPACE READING CHALLENGE GRADES TK-12 ORBITS OCTOBER 3-24, 2025

EARNING REWARDS IS EASY AND FUN!

Explore and read stories about science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math. Everyone who finishes the challenge gets a personalized certificate of completion and a Reward Package.

EAGER READERS EARN VIRTUAL TICKETS TO WIN BONUSES!

- Book Bundles • Coding Lessons • Chromebook •
- Zoom Meeting with Notable Authors, Scientists or Mathematicians •

Partnered with

SAVE THE DATE

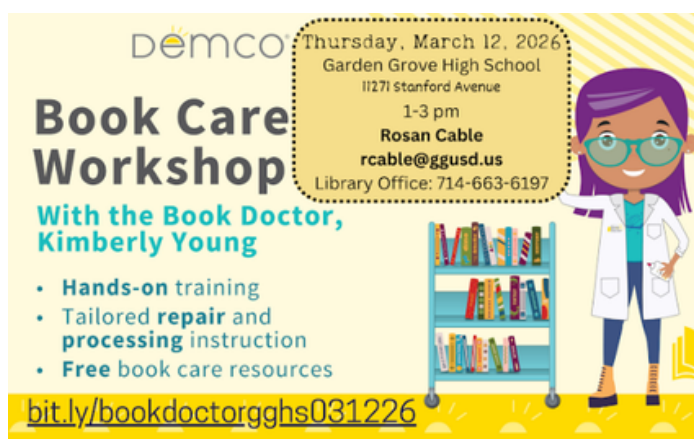
Registration - September 19, 2025
Splashdown Celebration - November 8, 2025

Organizations supporting this out-of-this-world reading challenge

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Education Office, 4SPACE, beanstack, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press, Cane's, BAZIC, SONIC, MARS, and others.

VISIT **READSTEAM.ORG** TO ENROLL
Launching a love for learning

Check out our YouTube Channel!



demco

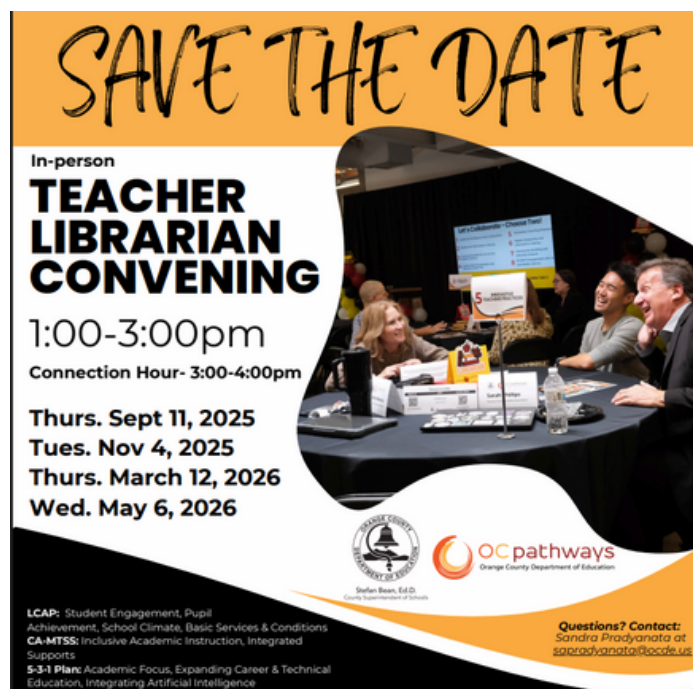
Book Care Workshop

With the Book Doctor, Kimberly Young

- Hands-on training
- Tailored repair and processing instruction
- Free book care resources

Thursday, March 12, 2026
Garden Grove High School
11271 Stanford Avenue
1-3 pm
Rosan Cable
rcable@ggusd.us
Library Office: 714-663-6197

bit.ly/bookdoctorggghs031226



SAVE THE DATE

In-person
TEACHER LIBRARIAN CONVENING

1:00-3:00pm
Connection Hour- 3:00-4:00pm

Thurs. Sept 11, 2025
Tues. Nov 4, 2025
Thurs. March 12, 2026
Wed. May 6, 2026

Stellen Beas, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

OC pathways
Orange County Department of Education

LCAP: Student Engagement, Pupil Achievement, School Climate, Basic Services & Conditions
CA-INTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction, Integrated Supports
5-3-1 Plan: Academic Focus, Expanding Career & Technical Education, Integrating Artificial Intelligence

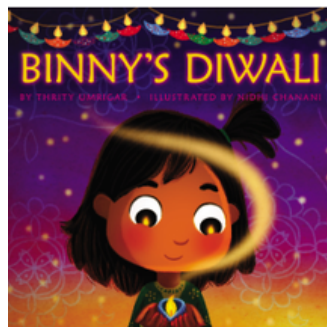
Questions? Contact:
Sandra Pradyanata at spradyanata@ocde.us



Check out all of Teaching Books' Timely Topic Resources [Here](#)



October 15th
[Indigenos Peoples Day](#)



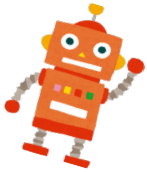
October 18-23rd
[Diwali! Festival of Lights](#)



October 31st
[Halloween](#)

Resources

- Need information about the upcoming Screener for Risk of Reading Difficulties, including Dyslexia? Check out the [OCDE Literacy and Language Webpage](#) for additional information and updates.
- Check out the latest [CDE Literacy Newsletter](#) for information on Statewide Literacy
- CDE has released [Literacy Content Blocks](#) for TK-5: The Literacy Content Blocks guide effective literacy instruction by applying the English Language Arts (ELA)/English Language Development (ELD) Framework.
- CDE also released [P-3 progression for Literacy and Language](#), aligning the PTKLF's and CA Common Core Standards.



Tech Corner

Tech Corner: FigJam for Collaborative Thinking

Missing Jamboard? [FigJam](#) (by Figma) is a free digital whiteboard where students can brainstorm, cluster ideas, and build visual connections together. It's simple to use, integrates with Google Drive, and works beautifully for story maps, peer feedback, or whole-class "parking lot" questions.

A small shift in tools can spark big engagement this fall!

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services

To subscribe to our newsletter scan the QR code below

